

**Remarks:**

Reconsideration of this US National Phase application in view of the above-amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-41 are currently pending. More specifically, claims 1-38 are original to priority PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015304, whereas claims 39-41 are being newly presented. Claims 39-41 are being newly presented in order to more fully set forth the subject matter that the Applicants believe to be their invention. Support for newly presented claims 39 and 40 may be found throughout the Specification and in particular at page 8, lines 1-6; page 12, lines 29-32; page 14, lines 1-4, lines 12-15, and lines 28-30; page 15, lines 29-30; and page 16, lines 25-29. Support for newly presented claim 41 may be found throughout the Specification and in particular at page 13, lines 1-22. Claims 1-38 correspond identically to claims 1-37 of priority PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015304, except that claims 26-38 have been renumbered to properly reflect their originally presented sequence (because in the PCT priority application claims numbering 1-37 were set forth by the Applicants, but two of those original claims were inadvertently numbered as claim 26). No new matter has been added.

As way of background and in addition to the filing of priority PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015304, the Applicants of the present invention concurrently filed on May 14, 2004, two other related international applications with the U.S. Receiving Office (under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)); namely, (1) PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015246 entitled “Method of Producing Thermoformed Articles from Gas Impregnated Polymer,” and (2) PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015245 entitled “Manufacture of Fully Recycled Foamed Polymer from Recycled Material.” The priority and two other related international applications all claim priority to a single U.S. provisional application filed on May 17, 2003 (namely, U.S. Application No. 60/471,477 entitled “Thermoformed Foamed Thermoplastic Packaging”). The present US National Phase application is thus related to two other US National Phase applications; namely, (1) U.S. Application No. 11/106,190 entitled “Method of Producing Thermoformed Articles from Gas Impregnated Polymer” filed April 13, 2005 (corresponds and claims priority to PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015246), and (2) a concurrently filed application entitled “Manufacture of Fully Recycled Foamed Polymer from Recycled Material” (corresponds and claims priority to PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/015245). The present application is being prosecuted by a

Preliminary Amendment

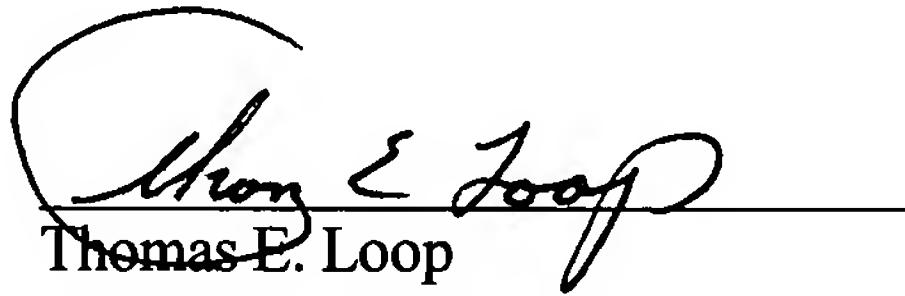
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registered patent attorney different than the one who drafted and prosecuted the priority and two other related international applications.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of claims 1-40 is earnestly solicited. A good faith effort has been made to place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, any further matter requires attention prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned patent attorney to resolve the same.

Respectfully submitted,



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